



Highlighting solutions for a just transition

Towards a Just Transition: IPM,
biocontrol and the path beyond pesticides.
4th of March 2025, Brussels, European Parliament



- **The need for sustainable pest control is bigger than ever.**
- **Working with nature, biocontrol solutions effectively and sustainably manage pest and disease.**
- **Support from policymakers and industry stakeholders is crucial to get rid of the competitive disadvantage and to ensure farms being economically profitable and productive.**

Let's work together to ensure a greener future for agriculture!

What is biocontrol?

Microbials



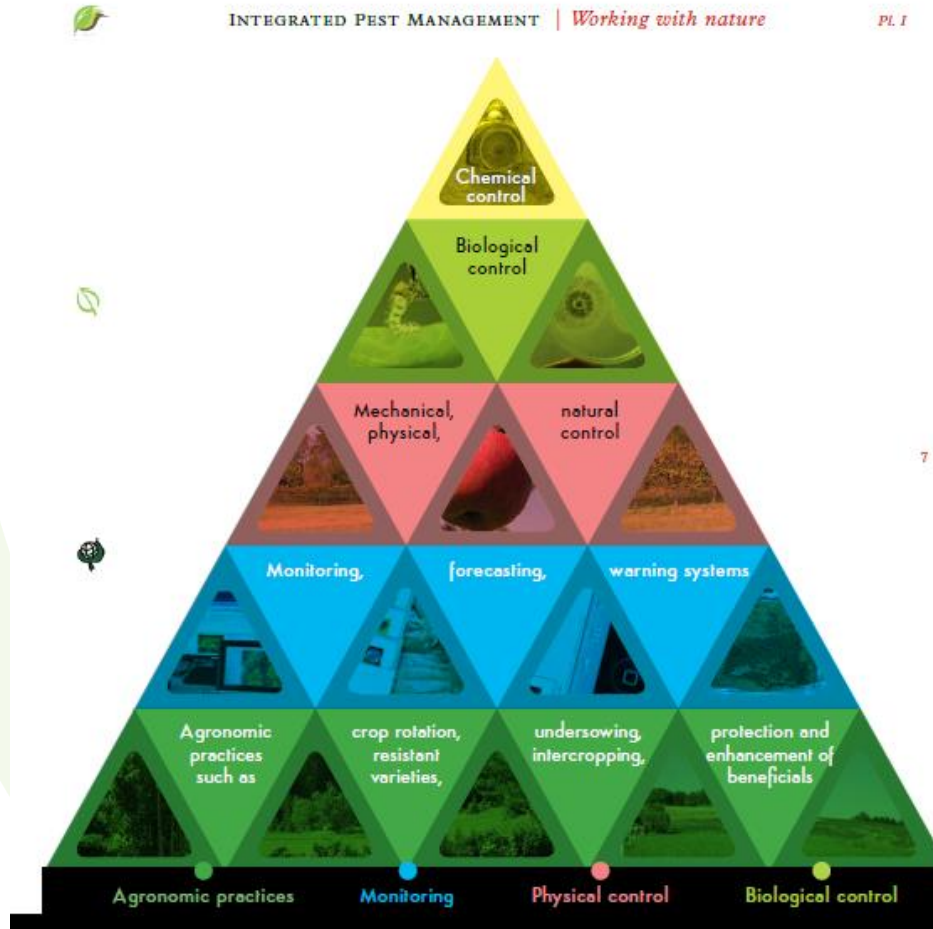
Semiochemicals



Natural Substances

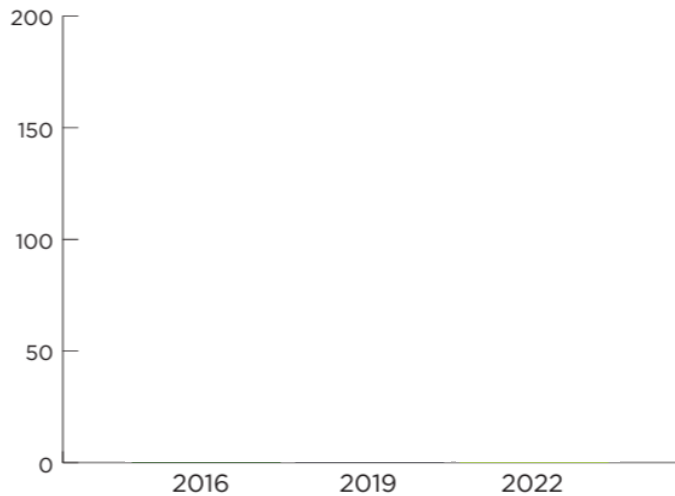


Macrobiols



- The future of IPM with innovative biocontrol products especially, when applied in combination with good agronomic practices, looks very promising, enabling a more sustainable agriculture with less impact on the environment and biodiversity whilst yielding safe and economically affordable food for the growing human population.

Portion of European Biocontrol Market that is based on microorganisms (million Euro)



Source: IBMA global – 2023 IBMA member survey

- **The future of IPM with innovative biocontrol products especially, when applied in combination with good agronomic practices, looks very promising, enabling a more sustainable agriculture with less impact on the environment and biodiversity whilst yielding safe and economically affordable food for the growing human population.**
- **Biocontrol is the most rapidly growing plant protection segment.**

Concrete actions are needed to make the use of biocontrol successful in the EU:

- **Short term:**

- ✓ **Harmonized legal EU wide definition for biocontrol**
- ✓ **Re-instatement of Article 30 to allow Provisional Authorisation of biocontrol products**
- ✓ **Waive the renewal process for biocontrol products unless there is a scientific need**
- ✓ **Facilitate label extensions for biocontrol products**

- **Long term:**

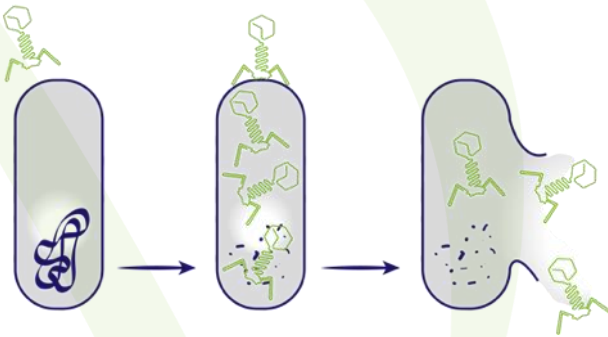
- ✓ **Create a new regulatory framework for biocontrol**



- Vaccin against *Pepino mosaic virus* in tomato
- Mode of action: **Cross protection** – natural defense response to exogenous pathogenic nucleic acids
- First mild virus **approved** in the EU (08/2015, PepMV, strain CH2, isolate 1906)
- **Low-risk** status
- Worldwide experience with over 17.000 ha of vaccinated tomatoes



- A **mixture of bacteriophages** specifically tailored to cover the EU-wide genetic diversity of the fire blight pathogen in apples and pears
- Mode of action: the bacteriophages **infect and replicate** within *Erwinia amylovora*



- **Open field!**
- Application for approval **under evaluation**

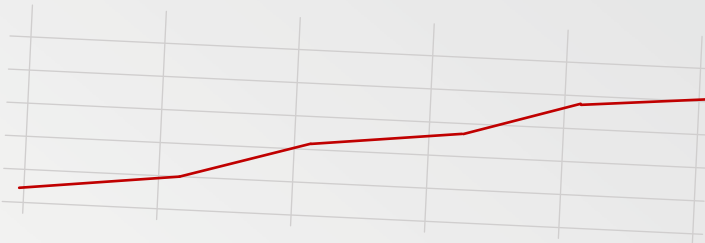


BERNARD BLUM
AWARD 2023

GOLD AWARD



The number of
**BIOCONTROL
PRODUCTS**
is slowly increasing
in the EU.



More **COMPLICATED
IMPLEMENTATION**
of legislative rules
FOR REGISTRATION
compared to
previous experiences:

**IMMEDIATE
SIMPLIFICATION**
EU-wide legal
biocontrol definition
and corrective
measures

LONG TERM
SOLUTION
a **NEW** regulatory
framework for
biocontrol

Thank you

IBMA Belgium

International Biocontrol
Manufacturers Association Belgium
Square de Meeûs 35,
1000 Brussels
Belgium

Chair: Gil Luypaert
glu@dcm-info.com

Vice-chair: Sophie Persoon
sophie.persoon@bayer.com

Secretary: Felipe Villarroel
felipe.villarroel@biobestgroup.com

